

**VISION 21 IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2008**

PRESENT: Kirk Hazlett, chair; Sara Oaklander, Jennifer Page, Al Rubin, Paul Santos, Paul Solomon

ABSENT: Austin Bliss, Joseph Crugnale, Vincent DeNovellis

OTHER: Jan Kruse and Heather Tuttle, co-chairs, Sustainable Belmont

**1. ADMINISTRIVIA:**

The minutes of January 10, 2007 were approved with minor changes

**2. UPDATES on OUTREACH**

**2.1 Meet Belmont:** Need for a date – Jennifer Page reporting:

- Jennifer approached Carolyn Bunyon at the high school, who said she could not schedule any events in the weeks prior to the opening of school until after the Superintendent and Principal had made their plans for events during this time. Jennifer explained the need to launch publicity. Ms. Bunyon suggested that she can probably confirm a date sometime in April.
- The Committee urged Jennifer to raise this matter with Dr. Holland. For example, it would be helpful to get information to real estate agents this spring.
- With a date set, Kirk will contact previous attendees, ask for help in planning.

**2.2 Booklets, “Welcoming booklets” – Jennifer Page reporting**

- Printing of original set:
  - Quantity: In May 2002, the VIC arranged for the printing of 6000 copies of a 24- page booklet, plus cover, plus binding. The work was done by Minuteman Regional High School; the school arranged for the binding to be done elsewhere and this cost included in to the final bill.
  - Cost: The total cost was \$2161.74. This comes to .036 cents per copy.
  - Funding: Nine (9) realtors @ \$250.00 each, for a total of \$2250.00.
  - Distribution: Each realtor received 300 copies. Copies were distributed to each TMM and others present at the May’02 Town Meeting. (Roughly 350 copies were distributed at that time.) Over the next 18 months, about 1400 copies were distributed by various town offices (e.g. Town Clerk, Library, Senior Center, Rec Dept.). About 1600 were held for replenishing supplies.
- Printing of inserts:

- In December 2003, 1600 two-sided inserts were printed and folded; major corrections were included, especially the phone numbers of town offices that had been brought onto a new phone system. Cost: \$ 48.00.
- Discussion:
  - We again raised the question of whether we could cut costs by making the booklet available on the web. The matter was not decided, since strong sentiment was expressed in favor of the value of print – specifically its immediate availability and ease of use.
- Next Steps
  - Kirk will investigate the cost of doing comparable work through a printer in town.
  - No other next steps were proposed. Although the VIC is apparently committed to this project, it is not clear who will work on it.

### **3. ANNUAL UPDATE FROM SUSTAINABLE BELMONT (Report, Discussion)**

We were joined by Jan Kruse and Heather Tuttle, co-chairs of the VIC's environmental task force, Sustainable Belmont (S.B.). Their report had been previously circulated to committee members by Kirk.

Jan and Heather were thanked for the annual report and were warmly congratulated for the impressive work that they and their task force have accomplished this past year and in previous years.

Discussion emerged on three items: (1) implementation of the "Sustainable Building Policy", (2) the anti-idling campaign, and (3) how the VIC can be helpful to Sustainable Belmont.

#### **3.1 Implementation of the Sustainable Building Policy:**

Implementation seems to be located in two places: the Office of Community Development (OCD -- Glenn Clancey, Dept. Head) and the Permanent Building Committee (PBC -- Pat Bruschi, Chair).

Permanent Building Committee: This group and the Selectmen have agreed to the policy, which is not as strong as SB members would have liked. VIC and SB have been advised by Barbara Bachalom of the Green Round Table that for a building committee to be most effective in promoting green municipal buildings, the commitment must be made from the outset – i.e. as a feasibility committee is appointed. As there are no start-up municipal buildings in the immediate future in Belmont, the best we can do is continue to give the question visibility.

Office of Community Development: OCD has on-going contact with private developers. We considered making a formal request to OCD that they take steps/create policies about such matters as requiring the recycling of demolition materials. Might we ask OCD to circulate materials? Ultimately, can this be

required as a policy or by-law? As a start, we need to talk with Glenn Clancey and ask him (a) what is the best way to circulate information about current opportunities to recycle demolition materials and (b) how we might influence the creation of policies that would make firmer requirements of developers.

Jan and Heather asked that VIC undertake both: to contact PBC and OCD. Paul Solomon offered to contact PBC; Sara Oaklander and Paul Solomon, together, will serve as liaison to the Office of Community Development.

### **3.2 Anti-Idling Campaign**

How can we persuade the police to comply with this state law? Surely, we agreed, the police must model such behavior. Discussion ensued about whether we might invite the Police Chief – perhaps with a couple of his “seconds” -- to discuss with us the issues and impediments to enforcement of this state law. We discussed, but finally rejected, the notion of inviting other public safety officials (e.g. fire fighters) also to such a meeting.

Paul and Sara again offered to be the “contacts” on behalf of the Vision Committee. They asked Heather and Jan to send them information about the law and the harmful effects of idling – both to health and to the environment -- before they make the pitch. It was proposed that the Chief be invited to make suggestions about how this law could be enforced in Belmont.

### **3.3 General “how can we help” discussion**

It was clear from the discussion that there are instances in which the VIC can be an effective liaison, an intermediary, between Sustainable Belmont and town offices. Since VIC is the appointed committee, and Sustainable Belmont is composed of volunteers – except for the co-chairs – it may be that VIC can speak with more authority. It is also likely that there will be times when our added “manpower” can help promote work and events by Sustainable Belmont. For example, we might be helpful in facilitating some of the anticipated public forums around the Climate Action Plan.

## **4. NEXT MEETING; ADJOURNMENT**

4.1 The date for our next meeting will be changed, as Kirk cannot attend on March 13. Hoping to get 100% participation as we review the retreat and plan next steps, we set aside two possible dates – Monday March 10 and Thursday March 27 as possibilities. Kirk will poll the absent members and inform us of the outcome, in the hope that we can settle on one date when we can all attend.

4.2 We adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Page,  
Secretary Pro Tempore